



COMMANDING OFFICER
USS LA SALLE (AGF-3)
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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PAO/CM
5750
Ser C6
10 May 1979

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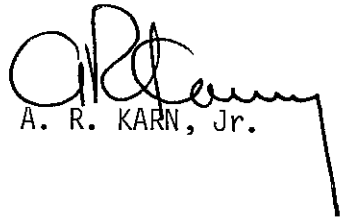
From: Commanding Officer, USS LA SALLE (AGF-3)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20390

Subj: USS LA SALLE Command History for 1978; submission of
(OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) 1978 Operations Schedule
(2) Summary of Operations
(3) Calls Made During Port Visits
(4) Calls Made to USS LA SALLE
(5) Change of Command Brochure

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5)
are submitted.


A. R. KARN, Jr.

Copy to:
CINCLANTFLT
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMIDEASTFOR

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1978 Operations Schedule

DATE	EVENT
01-04 JAN	Operations in Gulf of Aden/Red Sea
05 JAN	Port Suez, Egypt
06 JAN	Transit Suez Canal
06-10 JAN	Transit Mediterranean Sea
11 JAN-22 APR	RAV, Naples, Italy
22-23 APR	Operations in Tyrrhenian/Aegean Sea
24 APR	Souda Bay, Crete
25-26 APR	Operations in East Mediterranean Basin
27 APR	Port Said, Egypt
28 APR	Transit Suez Canal
29 APR-26 MAY	RUBY SURVEY Operations
27 MAY	Hodeida, Yemen Arab Republic
28 MAY-09 JUN	RUBY SURVEY Operations
10-11 JUN	Djibouti
12-14 JUN	RUBY SURVEY Operations
15-17 JUN	Transit Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea/Gulf of Oman/Persian Gulf
18 JUN-11 JUL	Upkeep, Bahrain
12-15 JUL	Transit Persian Gulf/Gulf of Oman/Arabian Sea
16-22 JUL	RUBY SURVEY Operations
23-24 JUL	Djibouti
25-30 JUL	RUBY SURVEY Operations
31 JUL	Djibouti
01-03 AUG	RUBY SURVEY Operations
04-07 AUG	Transit to Mombasa
08-28 AUG	RAV, Mombasa, Kenya
29-31 AUG	Transit to Seychelles
01-07 SEP	Port Victoria, Seychelles
08-12 SEP	Transit to Djibouti
13-14 SEP	Djibouti
15-22 SEP	RUBY SURVEY Operations
23-26 SEP	Bandar Abbas, Iran
27-30 SEP	Operations in Gulf of Oman

25 April 1979

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Enclosure (1)

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[REDACTED]

1978 Operations Schedule

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DATE	EVENT
01-03 OCT	Muscat, Oman
03-11 OCT	Intertype Training w/USS MULLINNIX
11-21 OCT	Upkeep, Bahrain
22-24 OCT	Surveillance Operations in Persian Gulf
25-27 OCT	Intertype Training w/USS MULLINNIX
28-30 OCT	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
01-15 OCT	Upkeep, Bahrain
16-21 NOV	Intertype Training w/USS MULLINNIX
21-22 NOV	Transit Exercise
23-26 NOV	MIDLINK-78 (Inport Karachi, Pakistan)
26 NOV-04 DEC	MIDLINK-78 (Arabian Sea)
04-07 DEC	Karachi, Pakistan
07-11 DEC	Persian Gulf Operations
12-14 DEC	Kuwait
14-20 DEC	Persian Gulf Contingency Operations
21-29 DEC	Bahrain
30-31 DEC	Surveillance Operations in Persian Gulf

[REDACTED]

Enclosure (1)

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Summary of Operations

(U) In early January 1978, USS LA SALLE (AGF-3) conducted operations in the Gulf of Aden and Red Sea in transit to Naples, Italy, with RADM S. H. PACKER, Commander Middle East Force, and CAPT J. D. FETTERMAN, Commanding Officer, embarked. On 5 January LA SALLE visited Port Suez, Egypt, transiting the Suez Canal on 6 January. Transiting the Mediterranean Sea 6-10 January, LA SALLE arrived at Naples, Italy 11 January for a three-month RAV, including dry docking, at S.E.B.N. Shipyard.

(U) On 15 March CAPT R. D. BUZZARD, Jr. relieved CAPT FETTERMAN as Commanding Officer, USS LA SALLE.

(U) Fast cruises were held 20-31 March, exercising the new crew in the following evolutions: general sea detail, abandon ship, flight quarters, refueling, ballasting, VERTREP/UNREP, underway fire, emergency destruction. During the RAV period, the following training was accomplished: Boiler water/Feed water, DCPO, 3-M Supervisor, Command Training Team, Action to Combat Racism, ELINT Processing brief, OPSEC Overview brief, OPSEC Threat brief, ACFT firefighting, Quality Assurance, Lookout Qualification. Inspection/assist visits were held in the following areas: Career Counseling, Disbursing Audit, Dental, Magazine, Personnel Management, Pay Record Examination, Food Service Assistance, with grades of satisfactory received in all areas. Major work packages completed included: complete overhaul of #1 and #2 boilers, overhaul of all SSTG's in machinery rooms and auxiliary equipment, initiation of #1 main engine vibration analysis, TACAN/ESM equipment overhaul, ECM antenna replacement, installation of narrow band secure voice, stern gate overhaul and anchor windlass overhaul. Jobs completed during this period totalled 857, as follows: Engineering-270, Deck-43, Supply-33, Air-23, Nav-40, Ops-392, Comm-26, Medical-30.

(U) Sea trials were held 7-8 April, with the following accomplishments: vibration survey, fathometer/OMEGA checks, communications, radar checkout, electronics checkout, ship maneuvering checks, EW equipment checkout, engineering trials, AFFF and DC equipment

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inspection, and a full power run. 22-23 April operations were conducted in the Tyrrhenian/Aegean Sea area. On 24 April LA SALLE was inport Souda Bay, Crete for ammunition onload and refueling. Operations were conducted in the eastern Mediterranean Basin 25-26 April, including 11 hours of flight operations with the SH-3G helicopter. LA SALLE was anchored at Port Said on 27 April, in preparation for transit of Suez Canal, which was effected on 28 April.

- ~~(C)~~ Because of the increasing level of conflict in the Horn of Africa in early 1978 and the involvement of Soviet and Cuban governments in the internal affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Yemen Arab Republic and Ethiopian governments and political organizations, an intensive surveillance effort by Middle East Force units in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden was directed by higher authority and was designated RUBY SURVEY Operations.
- ~~(C)~~ During the period 29 April - 14 June LA SALLE conducted 46 days of intense surveillance which resulted in the submission of 163 RAINFORM RED and 13 RED amplifier reports representing 144 ESM intercepts and 19 Soviet naval ship sightings. Eight RAINFORM WHITE and 24 OSIS WHITE reports were submitted on 136 friendly or neutral merchant/warship sightings, while 20 OSIS RED reports were submitted as a result of 36 Soviet Bloc merchant ship sightings. Six formal intelligence reports were submitted.
- ~~(C)~~ It was during this period that on 25 May LA SALLE, while anchored at 7 Fathom Bank, 14.5 nautical miles off Ethiopia, was approached by an Ethiopian gunboat inquiring as to LA SALLE purposes for anchoring. Early on 26 May LA SALLE got underway and was shadowed for approximately 12 hours by another gunboat whose intention seemed hostile and thus resulted in submission of 6 OPREP-3 NAVY BLUE reports. No further incidents occurred.
- ~~(C)~~ During the same period LA SALLE passed through the Bab-el-Mandeb Straits 7 times during daylight hours, affording the opportunity to conduct VISINT of Perim Island, which has displayed refortification with Soviet weapons and associated equipment.
- (U) LA SALLE made three brief stops for fuel--on 6 May in Djibouti, 17 May in Jidda, Saudia Arabia and 31 May in Djibouti--and two port visits (on 27 May to Hodeida, Yemen Arab Republic and 10-11 June to Djibouti) without incident. In addition, on 21 May LA SALLE conducted 16 hours of intership training with the French ships DUGUAY

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TROVIN and VICTOR SCHOELCHER, which included personnel transfer, surface and air reporting exercises, maneuvering, gunnery, communications and helicopter transfers.

~~(C)~~ During the period 15-17 June, LA SALLE transited the Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf, conducting surveillance without incident.

(U) The period 18 June -11 July was spent inport Manama, Bahrain for upkeep. Extensive PMS was conducted in all departments, since this was the first opportunity for the ship to take equipment off the line following the RAV in Naples in April. Additionally, advance liaison was conducted with the government of Bahrain and the Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard (ASRY) with respect to future upkeep support requirements. Yard capabilities were investigated, with report to COMNAVSURFLANT and COMIDEASTFOR. Preparations were made for future RUBY SURVEY operations tasking and an upkeep period scheduled for Mombasa, Kenya in August.

~~(C)~~ The period 12-15 July was spent transiting the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and Arabian Sea, conducting surveillance without incident.

~~(C)~~ During the period 16 July - 3 August LA SALLE conducted intense VISINT/PHOTOINT/ELINT surveillance of Gulf of Aden and southern Red Sea, concentrating primarily on P.D.R.Y. and Ethiopia. This effort resulted in the submission of 77 RAINFORM RED reports representing 74 ESM intercepts and 8 Soviet naval ship sightings. Eight RAINFORM WHITE and 33 OSIS WHITE reports were submitted on 90 friendly or neutral merchant/warship sightings and 10 OSIS RED reports were submitted as a result of 14 Soviet Bloc merchant ship sightings. Two formal intelligence reports were submitted. On 21 July a P.D.R.Y. MIG-21 on a possible surveillance mission made 15 low passes on LA SALLE while LA SALLE was 20 miles off Aden, which resulted in one OPREP-3 NAVY BLUE report being submitted. During this period of operations, LA SALLE transited the Bab-el-Mandeb Straits twice, conducting VISINT/PHOTOINT of Perim Island and various Soviet ships in the vicinity, including a PETYA FF and ZHUK-class gunboat.

(U) LA SALLE made two port visits to Djibouti during this period (23-24 and 31 July) without incident. On 30 July LA SALLE conducted a logistics replenishment of USS GLOVER, resulting in the helo passenger transfer of 26 personnel and the provision of 105,000 gallons of fuel.

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~~(C)~~ LA SALLE transited to Mombasa 4-7 August, conducting surveillance of the Somali coast.

(U) The period 8-28 August was spent inport Mombasa, Kenya for upkeep. Work accomplished included: 28 welding jobs, bilge cleaning/preservation, 8 major painting/preservation jobs (including all topside and weldeck interior), plus numerous woodworking/lagging jobs. LA SALLE hosted an under the awning reception for 150 people and conducted ship tours for approximately 3,200 guests. The death of President Jomo Kenyatta occurred near the end of the visit. There were no incidents.

(U) The period 29-31 August saw LA SALLE in transit to the Seychelles, with training conducted which included helo operations and a gunnery exercise.

(U) The period 1-7 September was spent visiting Port Victoria, Seychelles. Immediately following a three-week concentrated Mombasa upkeep, this visit was primarily of an R&R nature. This period was highlighted by an act of international cooperation. Upon receiving authorization from the State Department, the LA SALLE helicopter embarked civilian construction engineers on 5 and 6 September, providing aerial survey support services for the Seychelles government. Studies were made of three dam sites and four road sites on Mahe Island, plus various road sites on Ladig Island. LA SALLE hosted an under the awning reception for 150 guests, representing the Seychelles government, American Embassy and other national embassy/consular staffs. The ship's band gave three performances: at the USAF Satellite Tracking station club, at the National Stadium to an audience of some 4,000 people, and for the ship's reception.

(U) The period 8-12 September was spent conducting inter-type training with USS MULLINNIX (DD-944) en route the Gulf of Aden. The following exercises were completed: TYCOMDEX, eight hours of simulated AEWEX, two Z-13-CC (maneuvering), eight Z-13-CC (non-maneuvering), eight Z-31-EW, one Z-27-G, fifteen hours of helo quarters, sixteen hours of engineering drills, two Leap Frogs, two refuelings and two VERTREPs. Upon completion, RUBY SURVEY Operations were resumed.

(U) A visit was made to Djibouti 13-14 September, during conduct of RUBY SURVEY Operations. LA SALLE hosted a luncheon for American Charge d'Affaires Mr. Clark, and the commanding officers of the French FF VICTOR SCHOELCHER, the Iranian AOR BUSHEHR and the Iranian PTG's JOSHAN, PEYICAN, FALAHARN and KHADENG. The ship's band performed at the stadium to an audience of 2,000.

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~~(C)~~ During the period of RUBY SURVEY (13-22 September), LA SALLE transited the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb twice and submitted 44 RAINFORM RED reports which included 36 ESM intercepts, 3 RAINFORM WHITE reports and 19 OSIS RED reports. Two formal intelligence reports were submitted.

(U) The period 23-26 September was spent inport Bandar Abbas, Iran. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen USN-IIN relations. This was accomplished through several social and professional exchanges. LA SALLE conducted a thorough assessment of Bandar Abbas Naval Ship Repair Facility for limited upkeep/RAV in the future. Additionally, a reception under the awning was held for the IIN and U.S./U.K. community with 70 guests in attendance.

(U) Operations were conducted in the Gulf of Oman while transiting to Muscat, Oman 29-30 September.

(U) LA SALLE visited Muscat, Oman 1-3 October, hosting a reception for 180 guests from the Oman government and military, plus members of various embassies, the American and U.K. communities. Numerous tours and receptions were hosted for approximately 150 members of the crew. The crew also donated 30 pints of blood to a local hospital. This visit afforded the opportunity for interface with Sultanate of Oman military personnel.

(U) Inter-type training was conducted with USS MULLINNIX 3-11 October. The emphasis was directed in preparation for MIDLINK 78. Major exercises included: two VERTREPs, one Z-27-G, three Z-13-CC (maneuvering), two COMMEEX, twenty hours of helo operations, nine Z-31-EW, sixteen hours of engineering drills, eight hours of simulated AAWEX and two refuelings. Training was curtailed 5 October when LA SALLE and MULLINNIX were dispatched on SAR operations in the Gulf of Oman searching for a man who jumped off the merchant ship HALLIFAX STAR. An intensive search utilizing LA SALLE's helo and MULLINNIX and LA SALLE in various search patterns was prosecuted with negative results.

(U) The period 11-21 October saw LA SALLE inport Bahrain for upkeep. Numerous topside and interior preservation jobs were performed. Inport pre-MIDLINK training was conducted for officers, CIC and CIC augmentation personnel.

~~(C)~~ LA SALLE then conducted surveillance operations in the Persian Gulf 22-24 October.

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(U) Additional inter-ship training was conducted 25-27 October with USS MULLINNIX in preparation for MIDLINK 78. AXP's vice FXP's were employed for the entire period. Major exercises included: five hours of helo operations, two tactical maneuvering exercises, fifteen allied communications exercises, six EW exercises and one refueling.

(U) LA SALLE visited Dubai, U.A.E. 28-30 October, hosting numerous tours of the ship for American community and Central Military Command armed forces personnel. Numerous invitations to crew members were extended for dining out with the U.S. and U.K. communities. Dubai shipyard capabilities were reported on for possible future Middle East Force utilization. 30-31 October LA SALLE transited to Bahrain.

(U) LA SALLE spent the period 1-15 November inport Bahrain for upkeep. A major waterside cleaning of both boilers was accomplished and exterior preservation of the sides was completed. In addition, extensive electronics repair and calibration was completed in preparation for MIDLINK 78. Additional inport pre-MIDLINK training was conducted for officer's radiomen, signalmen, CIC and CIC augmentation personnel. Also during this period, Vice Admiral MOORER, CINCUSNAVEUR, visited the MIDEASTFOR units.

(U) Inter-type training was conducted during the period 16-21 November. USS LA SALLE and USS VREELAND conducted one last period of intensive training prior to MIDLINK 78. Emphasis was placed on understanding and employment of the exercise operation order and AXP's. Additionally, LA SALLE's helo detachment was relieved in Bahrain prior to the under-way period and required deck operations requalification. Operations involved transiting the Persian Gulf, Straits of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman. On completion of training, LA SALLE and MULLINNIX rendezvoused with the British FF's SIRIUS and ARDENT for a TRANSITEX to Karachi for commencement of MIDLINK 78. Exercises completed during the inter-type training included: four hours of daylight touch and go's for the helo, four hours of night touch and go's, a GUNNEX, intelligence exercises, EW exercises, TYCOMMEX, tactical maneuvering and communications drills and two refuelings.

(U) Following rendezvous with the British ships on 21 November, training for MIDLINK 78 was finalized with several TRANSITEX, including one tactical maneuvering exercise, one simulated AAW exercise and numerous CW, visual and radio telephone exercises, through 22 November.

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(U) The initial phase of MIDLINK 78 (the annual CENTO Treaty maritime exercise) was conducted 23-26 November in port Karachi, Pakistan with an intensive communications and CIC exercise workup. Additionally, numerous conferences were held in order to firm up final plans for the following at-sea phase. This phase was marred, however, by the loss of two Pakistan Navy divers participating in a UDT exercise.

LA SALLE's CIC provided the SAR coordinator (COMIDEASTFOR) with updated information and plots of SAR operations throughout the 17 hours of helo SAR operations. LA SALLE's helo flew approximately 12 hours in support of the operations in company with other MIDLINK navies' helicopters. Results were negative.

(U) The at-sea phase of MIDLINK 78 was conducted in the Arabian Sea 26 November - 4 December and consisted of numerous communications, general warfare and seamanship exercises in order to train the individual naval assets (U.S., U.K., Pakistan, Iran and Turkey) to work together to increase individual and joint readiness levels and to increase inter-alliance tactical coordination. During the second phase, LA SALLE participated in 14 communications drills, five plotting drills, two tactical maneuvering drills, one underway replenishment, one ASW encounter, one VERTREP, a formation anchoring, an NBC defense exercise and two gunnery exercises. Additionally, LA SALLE's helo flew 30 hours in support of phase objectives.

(U) The third phase consisted of a simulated war at sea. LA SALLE participated in this phase as the flagship for the ORANGE forces, whose objectives were to impose a simulated blockade of Karachi harbor and seek out and destroy BLUE surface and air forces. LA SALLE's CIC provided a SSSC and AAW picture for COMORANGE (COMIDEASTFOR) while additionally providing all required command and control communications support.

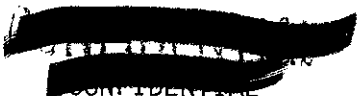
(U) The fourth phase of MIDLINK 78 was a VIP demonstration for various leaders of CENTO naval, surface and air coordinators. LA SALLE embarked 28 distinguished guests aboard, including the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, COMSEVENTHFLT, Military Commander Karachi, and several members of Central Military Planning Staff for CENTO.

(U) Upon completion of MIDLINK 78, LA SALLE returned to Karachi 4-7 December to participate in post-exercise reconstruction, discussion and analysis of MIDLINK. LA SALLE then hosted a reception for approximately 150 guests representing all commands and units participating in the CENTO exercises.

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(U) On 7 December LA SALLE was ordered to re-enter the Persian Gulf at best speed for contingency operations in support of possible NEO (Non-combatant Evacuation Operations). During the period 7-11 December LA SALLE exercised its NEO plan, assisted COMIDEASTFOR in the formulation of MIDEASTFOR contingency planning and supported other MIDEASTFOR units with fuel and mail/cargo replenishment.

(U) LA SALLE visited the major oil production city of Mina-al-Ahmadi, Kuwait 12-14 December. Ship's crew and wardroom were hosted at various American and British community homes and by the American Embassy during the stay. LA SALLE hosted a luncheon for Commander Kuwait Navy and several executives of the Kuwait Oil Company 13 December.

(C) In view of the political and religious turmoil in Iran, all MIDEASTFOR units remained on alert in the Persian Gulf. During the period 14-20 December LA SALLE conducted surveillance operations, primarily in the northwest Gulf area, returning to the central and eastern Gulf three times to refuel the MULLINNIX and VREELAND.

~~(C)~~ The political problem in Iran appeared to have abated late in December, which allowed LA SALLE to enter Bahrain for a scheduled three-week holiday/upkeep period 21 December. However, on 30 December LA SALLE was dispatched to return to the Gulf for continuing surveillance operations in the northwestern Gulf due to renewed political unrest in Iran. LA SALLE remained there through the end of December.

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Calls Made to USS LA SALLE

PLACE/DATE(S)	PERSONAGE
Mombasa, Kenya (8-28 August 1978)	Mr. Eliud Mahihu, Provincial Commissioner, Coast Province Mr. Obely Nyalik, Chairman, Mombasa Municipal Commission LT COL E. Simon Mbilu, Commander Kenyan Navy Mr. J. Mutubi, Kenya Port Authority U.S. Ambassador & Mrs. LeMell Mr. A. F. Awadh, Chief of Customs Mr. W. L. Keya, Chief of Immigration Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta (son of late President) Mr. Muhoho Keynatta (son of late President)
Port Victoria, Seychelles (1-7 September)	Mr. Philibeit Loizeau, Minister of Public Works Ambassador Rene Choiseul-Praslim of France Mr. John Pugh, British High Commissioner Mr. Robert Felder, Charge d'Affaires, U.S. Embassy Captain James Ferrari, Port Captain

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Enclosure (4)

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PLACE/DATE(S)

PERSONAGE

Djibouti (13-14 September

Charge d'Affaires Mr. Walter Clark

Bandar Abbas, Iran
(23-26 September)

MC Abdol Razach,
Governor-General, Bandar Abbas
Captain Stiafigh, IIN,
Deputy Commander Persian Gulf
and Oman Sea Fleet
RADM F. C. Collins, USN,
Chief Navy Section ARMISH MAAG
CDR Bajadi, IIN,
Commander Naval Shipyard,
Bandar Abbas

Muscat, Oman (1-3 October)

H.H. Sayyio Thuwani bin Shihab,
Personal Advisor to Sultan and
Governor of Muscat
H.E. Salim bin Nasser al-Busaidi,
Minister of Communication
H.E. Yusuf Al-Alawi,
Under Secretary, Minister of
Foreign Affairs
Brig. P. Thwaites,
Chairman, Joint Staff,
Sultan's Armed Forces
Commander D. Connel,
Acting Commander, Sultan of Oman's
Navy
Mr. Henry S. Sizer,
U.S. Charge d'Affaires

Dubai, U.A.E. (28-30 October)

Mr. B. Wrampleier,
U.S. Charge d'Affaires
H.H. Shaileh Rashid bin Saeed al
Maktouni,
Ruler of Dubai
H.H. Shaikh Ahmed bin Rashid Maktoum,
Commander, Central Military Command
H.H. Shaikh Mohamed bin Rashid,
Minister of Defense

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Enclosure (4)

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PLACE/DATE(S)

PERSONAGE

Bahrain (1-15 November 1978)

Mr. Gordon Powers,
U.S. Charge d'Affaires
RADM H.W.E. Hollins, RN (Ret),
Head, Middle East Navigation
Aid Services (MENAS)
Mr. Tarig Abdel-Rahman al-Muayyad,
Minister of Information

Karachi, Pakistan
(23 November - 7 December)

VADM S. R. Foley, USN
COMSEVENTHFLT
Mr. Arthur W. Hummel, Jr.,
U.S. Ambassador
Mr. Ali Ahmed Talpur,
Pakistan Defense Minister
ADM Bulend Ulusu,
Commander-in-Chief, Turkish Navy
ADM M. Shariff, PN,
Commander, Pakistan Naval Staff
Commodore Zafar Shamsie, PN,
Director, Pakistan Navy Staff
College
Air Marshal Muhammad Anwar Shanuim,
Chief of Staff, Pakistan Air Staff
LT GEN Muhammad Isbal Khar,
Deputy Chief of Pakistan Army
RADM Zamir,
Commander, Pakistan Fleet

Kuwait (12-14 December)

LT COL Habib Al-Meil,
Commander Kuwait Navy
Shaikh Jaber Abdullah al-Jaber,
Governor of Al-Ahmadi, Kuwait
Shaikh Salem al-Sabah al-Salem
al-Sabah,
Minister of Defense
Mr. Abdul Fatah S. K. al-Badr,
General Superintendent, Terminal
Operation, Kuwait Oil Company
Mr. Frank E. Maestrone,
U.S. Ambassador

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Enclosure (4)

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PLACE/DATE(S)

PERSONAGE

Muscat, Oman (continued)

H.E. Yusuf al-Alawi,
Under Secretary, Minister of
Foreign Affairs
Commander D. Connel,
Acting Commander, Sultan of
Oman's Navy
Mr. Henry S. Sizer,
U.S. Charge d'Affaires

Dubai, U.A.E (28-30 October 1978)

H.H. Shaileh Rashid bin Saeed al
Maktouni,
Ruler of Dubai
H.H. Shaikh Mohamed bin Rashid,
Minister of Defense
H.H. Shaikh Ahmed bin Rashid Maktoum,
Commander Central Military Command

Bahrain (1-15 November 1978)

Mr. Gordon Powers,
U.S. Charge d'Affaires

Karachi, Pakistan
(23 November - 7 December 1978)

ADM M. Shariff, PN,
Commander Pakistan Naval Staff
RADM Zamir, PN,
Commander Pakistan Fleet

Kuwait (12-14 December 1978)

LT COL Habib al-Meil,
Commander Kuwait Navy
Shaikh Jaber Abdullah al-Jaber,
Governor of Al-Ahmadi, Kuwait
Mr. Frank E. Maestrone,
U.S. Ambassador

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Enclosure (3)

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PLACE/DATE(S)

PERSONAGE

Hodeida, Yemen Arab Republic
(27 May 1978)

Ali Abu Rajal,
Governor of Hodeida
LTC Abdurrahmien Zeiu,
Area Commander
LTC Ahmad Sanayn,
Navy Commander
Port Captain

Bahrain (18 June - 11 July 1978)

Captain Duck,
Harbor Master
Wat T. Cluverius IV,
U.S. Ambassador
F. Fernandez,
Commercial Manager, ASRY

Mombasa, Kenya (8-28 August 1978)

Eliud Mahihu,
Provincial Commissioner,
Coast Province
Obelu Nyalik,
Chairman of Municipal Council
LT COL E. Simon Mbiliu,
Commander, Kenyan Navy
U.S. Ambassador & Mrs. LeMelle
President Kenyatta

Port Victoria, Seychelles
(1-7 September 1978)

Mr. Philibeit Loizeau,
Minister of Public Works
Mr. Robert Felder,
Charge d'Affaires, U.S. Embassy

Bandar Abbas, Iran
(23-26 September 1978)

MC Abdol Razach,
Governor-General, Bandar Abbas
Captain Stiafigh, IIN,
Deputy Commander, Persian Gulf
and Oman Sea Fleet

Muscat, Oman (1-3 October 1978)

H.H. Sayyio Thuwani bin Shihab,
Personal Advisor to Sultan and
Governor of Muscat
H.E. Salim bin Nasser al-Busaidi,
Minister of Communication

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Enclosure (3)

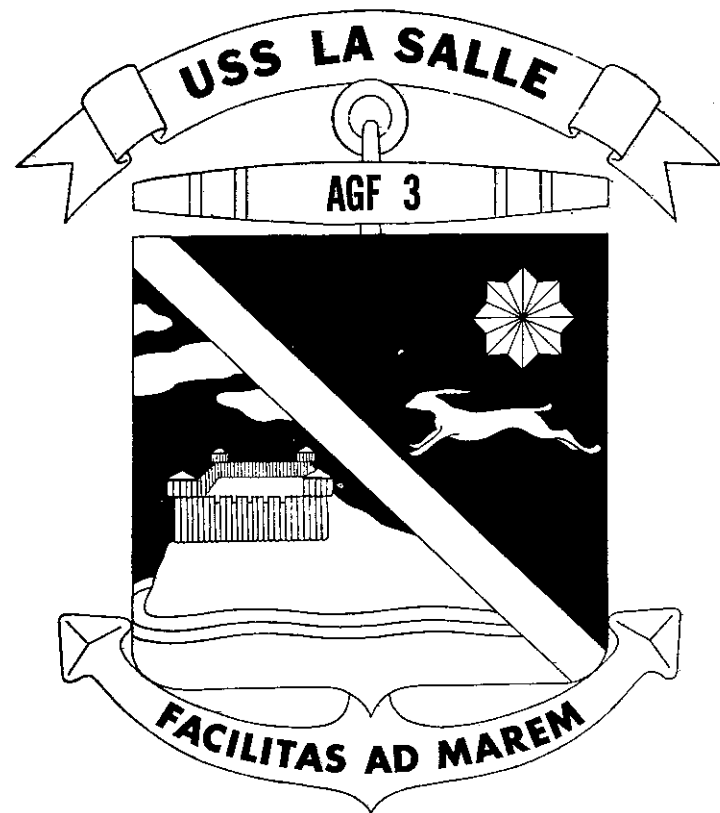
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Calls Made During Port Visits

PLACE/DATE(S)	PERSONAGE
Djibouti (6 May 1978)	His Excellency, Nivan Bastouil, Ambassador from France Vice Admiral Henri Darrieus, Commanding Officer of Naval Forces in the Indian Ocean (Commandant des Force Maritimes en Ocean Indien) Major General Alfred Garen, Commanding Officer of the French Forces stationed in Djibouti (Commandant des Forces Francaises stationnees a Djibouti) Colonel Michel Le Naim, Commanding Officer of Air Forces (Commandant l'Air) Captain Michel Large, Commanding Officer of the Navy in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (Commandant La Marine en Mer Rouge et Gulf Aden) Colonel Raymond Getto, French Military Attache and Chief of the Military Cooperation Mission Captain Jean Florentin, Chief of Staff to General Garen Charge d'Affaires Clark
Jidda, Saudi Arabia (17 May 1978)	Consul General Robert Chase Colonel Walter P. Hayes, Defense Attache

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Enclosure (3)



Change of Command

Wednesday, the Fifteenth of March

Nineteen Hundred Seventy-Eight

USS LA SALLE

Naples, Italy

Enclosure (5)

BIOGRAPHY OF REAR ADMIRAL CHARLES J. YOUNGBLADE, U.S. NAVY



Charles John Youngblade was born (b) (6) in (b) (6). He attended Iowa State College prior to enlisting in the Navy in June 1944. He entered the Naval Academy in July 1945. He was commissioned in 1949 and entered flight training. After receiving his wings in 1950 he subsequently served in squadrons in the Atlantic Fleet, then as instructor in Pensacola and then made several Mediterranean cruises flying the A3D.

Upon completion of this tour he became Heavy Attack Training Officer on the staff of Commander, Naval Air Forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, where he remained until August 1962.

This was followed by a tour as Operations Officer of Heavy Attack Replacement Training Squadron VAH-3. He then served as Executive and Command-

ing Officer of RVAH-9, completing two tours in Southeast Asia in USS RANGER.

One year at the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island was followed by a tour as Executive Officer of the USS BAYFIELD (APA 33), then as Operations and Executive Officer of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA 64).

In February 1969 he took command of the USS PAWCATUCK (AO 108) with the Sixth Fleet, remaining until August 1970. At that time he became the Executive Assistant and Senior Aide to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Operations and Readiness in Washington, D.C.

In September 1971 he became the Commanding Officer of the USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA 42). In July 1973 he reported as Chief of Staff for Commander, Naval Air Forces, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, where he served until moving to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in May 1975.

He served on the Joint Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, J-3, as Deputy Director for Operations (Reconnaissance and Electronic Warfare) from May 1975 until June 1976.

Rear Admiral Youngblade is currently the Deputy Commander, Naval Striking Force, Southern Europe.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Unit Commendation Medal.

ARRIVAL HONORS

PARADE THE COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM*

POST THE COLORS*

INVOCATION*

-REMARKS-

REAR ADMIRAL SAMUEL H. PACKER, III

COMMANDER MIDDLE EAST FORCE

CAPTAIN JOHN H. FETTERMAN, JR.

COMMANDING OFFICER, USS LA SALLE (AGF 3)

-READING OF ORDERS-

CAPTAIN JOHN H. FETTERMAN, JR.

CAPTAIN. ROBERT D. BUZZARD, JR.

-RETIRE THE COLORS*-

-BENEDICTION-

*GUESTS PLEASE STAND

MISSION AND HISTORY

The USS LA SALLE (AGF 3) is the flagship for Commander Middle East Force and is permanently deployed in the Middle East to promote goodwill, understanding, mutual respect and acceptance between Americans and the people of countries visited by the ship. The ship has steamed over 362,200 miles paying visits to ports in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, to the east coast of Africa and numerous small islands in the Indian Ocean.

LA SALLE has been privileged to receive Kings, Sultanates; Amirs; and numerous heads of states from both foreign countries and the United States. In addition, the ship has hosted thousands of visitors from local communities in her theater of operations.

Commissioned as an amphibious transport dock at the New York Naval Shipyard on 22 February 1964, the LA SALLE was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force as a force flagship. In early 1972 LA SALLE was refitted to flagship configuration in Portsmouth, Virginia Naval Shipyard. In July 1972 LA SALLE replaced the USS VALCOUR as flagship for COMIDEASTFOR homeported in Bahrain, Persian Gulf and has operated throughout the Middle East area until the present time.

The LA SALLE is a proud ship which has recorded several historical "firsts": On 19 May 1969 LA SALLE made Naval Aviation History by landing and launching the first operational VSTOL aircraft from her flight deck in evaluation tests for the Navy. On 3 November 1966 LA SALLE recovered the Gemini Two spacecraft capsule near Ascension Island.

BIOGRAPHY OF REAR ADMIRAL SAMUEL H. PACKER, III, U.S. NAVY



Rear Admiral Samuel H. Packer attended Dartmouth College, and graduated from Tufts University in 1945 at which time he was commissioned. He served in USS DENNIS J. BUCKLEY and USS E-PCE (R) 852 prior to attending Submarine School. He then served in USS SEA OWL, USS CERO, USS REMORA, USS SIRAGO, and commanded USS HARDER.

He commanded Submarine Division FIFTY-THREE and Submarine Development Group ONE and has served on the staff of Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Commander in Chief, U. S. Naval Forces Europe; and Commander U. S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam. His most recent assignments have been with the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Joint Staff, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Rear Admiral Packer commenced his present assignment as Commander, Middle East Force in July 1977.

He is a graduate of the Naval War College and has a Master of Arts Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

He is married to the former Miss (b) (6) of (b) (6) and they have five children.

BIOGRAPHY OF CAPTAIN JOHN H. FETTERMAN, JR., U.S. NAVY



Captain John H. FETTERMAN, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. (b) (6) of (b) (6) was born on (b) (6) in (b) (6). He graduated from Butler Township High School and attended Susquehanna University and Albright College.

Following graduation from Albright College in 1954, Captain Fetterman attended Officer Candidate School at Newport, Rhode Island, was commissioned as Ensign in 1955, and designated Naval Aviator in 1956.

Captain Fetterman's first operational tour was with Attack Squadron ONE ZERO FIVE at Cecil Field, Florida. Flying A1H Skyraiders from the deck of the USS ESSEX in the SIXTH and SEVENTH Fleets, Captain Fetterman participated in both the Lebanon and Formosa crises.

In October 1959, Captain Fetterman reported to Fleet Airborne Electronics Training Unit, Atlantic, where he served as Light Attack Nuclear Weapons Training Instructor. Following this tour, Captain Fetterman reported to Attack Squadron FORTY FOUR for A4 replacement pilot training prior to joining the staff of Commander Attack Carrier Air Wing EIGHT. During this tour he served as Administrative Officer, Weapons Officer and Operations Officer.

After tours at the Naval War College and Attack Squadron FORTY FOUR, Captain Fetterman reported to Attack Squadron EIGHTY ONE aboard USS SHANGRI-LA where he served as Maintenance Officer during two Mediterranean deployments.

A tour in Attack Squadron ONE SEVENTY FOUR, where he served as Operations Officer and instructed in the A7E aircraft, was followed by orders to Attack Squadron EIGHTY SEVEN as Executive Officer. In March 1972, while deployed in the Mediterranean aboard USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Captain Fetterman assumed command of Attack Squadron EIGHTY SEVEN's "Golden Warriors." During this command tour, Captain Fetterman was selected as Team Leader of a joint, U. S. Navy and Air Force, air-to-ground weapons team which represented the United States in NATO competition in Greece.

In March 1973 Captain Fetterman reported to the Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D. C. where he served for two years as Assistant Director of the Navy Senate Liaison Office. In July 1975 he assumed command of Carrier Air Wing EIGHT aboard USS NIMITZ, and made deployments to the Caribbean, North Atlantic, and Mediterranean. In January 1977 he assumed command of the USS LA SALLE (AGF 3).

During his career, Captain Fetterman has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, and various campaign and service awards.

BIOGRAPHY OF CAPTAIN ROBERT D. BUZZARD, JR., U.S. NAVY



Captain Robert D. BUZZARD, Jr., was born in (b) (6) on (b) (6). He is a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Erie Academy High School in 1951. He attended Yale University and was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in June 1955. He was commissioned an Ensign upon graduation through the NROTC program.

Captain Buzzard served as a gunnery officer in USS COLUMBUS (CA 74) until 1957 when he departed to attend submarine school. He subsequently served in USS REQUIN (SS 481) as Engineer and Navigator until February 1961 when he was assigned to the staff of COMSUBDIV 62 as Division Engineer. From February 1962 until July 1964, he was assigned to the Special Projects Office in Washington, D.C. as Administrative Assistant to the Director.

He was then assigned to USS BARBEL (SS 580) as Operations Officer and Navigator until November 1965 and then to USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569) as Executive Officer until May 1968.

Captain Buzzard served as Commanding Officer of USS SIRAGO (SS 485) from May 1968 until April 1970. He was then assigned to the Bureau of Naval Personnel in the Enlisted Assignment Division until June 1972 after which he attended the U. S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania until July 1973. During this tour he also attended Pennsylvania State University and was awarded a Master of Administration degree. From August 1973 until October 1975 he was Executive Officer of USS CANOPUS (AS 34) stationed in Holy Loch, Scotland.

During his Naval career, Captain Buzzard has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

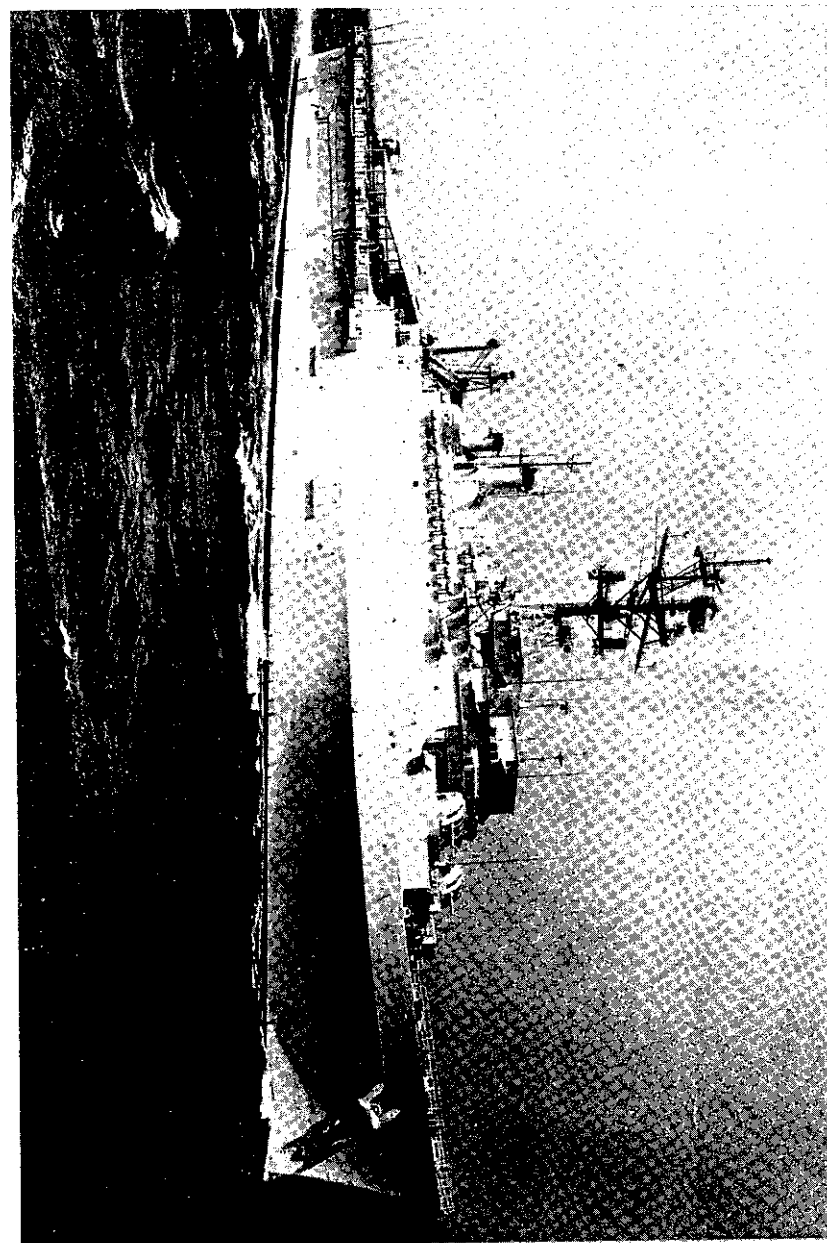
Captain Buzzard is married to the former (b) (6) of (b) (6). They have four children: (b) (6) and (b) (6). The family presently resides in (b) (6).

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY OF USS LA SALLE (AGF 3)

22 FEB 1964 to 27 JUL 1966	CAPT A. DOUGALL
27 JUL 1966 to 9 AUG 1967	CAPT M. Y. CLARK
9 AUG 1967 to 21 JAN 1969	CAPT H. L. MATTHEWS, JR.
21 JAN 1969 to 18 APR 1970	CAPT J. E. HANSEN
18 APR 1970 to 5 OCT 1971	CAPT A. L. MAYNARD
5 OCT 1971 to 23 JUN 1972	CAPT J. B. MORIN
23 JUN 1972 to 5 JUL 1972	CAPT S. LORENZ
5 JUL 1972 to 8 JAN 1973	CAPT J. B. MORIN
8 JAN 1973 to 15 DEC 1974	CAPT H. S. CROSBY
15 DEC 1974 to 9 JAN 1977	CAPT B. A. TROUTMAN, JR.
9 JAN 1977 to 15 MAR 1978	CAPT J. H. FETTERMAN, JR.
15 MAR 1978	CAPT R. D. BUZZARD, JR.

COMIDEASTFOR CHRONOLOGY ABOARD FLAGSHIP USS LA SALLE

21 APR 1970 to 9 DEC 1972	RADM M. G. BAYNE
9 DEC 1972 to 20 FEB 1975	RADM R. J. HANKS
20 FEB 1975 to 30 JUN 1976	RADM T. J. BIGLEY
30 JUN 1976 to 4 JUL 1977	RADM W. J. CROWE, JR.
4 JUL 1977	RADM S. H. PACKER, III



Navy Designation.....AGF-3
Type Vessel.....Miscellaneous Flagship
Keel Laid.....2 April 1962
Launching.....3 August 1963
Commissioning.....22 February 1964
Builder.....New York Shipyard

Propulsion System.....Steam
Number Boilers.....Two
Number Engines.....Two
Number Propellers.....Two
Speed.....More than 20 Knots

Overall Length.....521 Feet
Extreme Breadth.....84 Feet
Full Load Displacement.....13,890 Tons
Number of Anchors.....Two
Weight of Anchors.....22,500 Pounds

Armament.....Four Twin 3"/50 Caliber Mounts
Air Department.....One SH-3 Helicopter
Accommodations.....About 1,300 Navy and Marines